



IDENTIFYING OPPORTUNITIES
THE YOUTH ACTION CREW

Thanks to a group of Bloomington youth, the City of Bloomington now has a valuable tool for identifying opportunities for young people.

The Bloomington Youth Action Crew (BYAC), with the guidance of Bloomington Health Specialists Denise Reese and Carolyn Anderson, created a map highlighting youth-friendly places in Bloomington.

To create the map, more than 570 kids, as well as businesses and community organizations, were asked about the opportunities that exist in Bloomington for young people to work, volunteer, connect with others and hang out.

For more information or to request a map, call Denise Reese at 952-563-8984.

PUBLIC HEALTH



HERE’S TO YOUR HEALTH
MAKING BLOOMINGTON A HEALTHIER PLACE

What if greater opportunities existed right in your backyard for physical activity and access to fresh fruits and vegetables? Wouldn’t it be easier to make healthier choices? Bloomington Public Health is using funding from the Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP) to explore ways to make Bloomington a healthier place to live, work and play.

SHIP is part of Minnesota’s health reform law that funds projects to achieve long-lasting environmental and policy changes supporting a healthy lifestyle. These projects target the top three preventable risk factors for chronic disease: tobacco use and exposure; poor nutrition; and physical inactivity. Projects include:

- Adding bicycle lanes to the 86th Street Corridor from Xerxes to I-35W.
- Identifying barriers to obtaining fresh fruits and vegetables through a study of fresh food markets and interviews with local residents.
- Providing training, resources and guidance to childcare centers to help children adopt healthy habits.

Mini-grants are currently being offered to groups working on activities that support these health initiatives. The application deadline is April 15, 2010.

WEBSITE KEYWORD: SHIP.

CELEBRATE WITHOUT ALCOHOL

TALK TO YOUR TEENS ABOUT MAKING SMART CHOICES



The summer break and warm weather bring many opportunities for youth to celebrate. It is important for teens to know those celebrations should not include alcohol. This is where parents come into the picture. Parents have a big impact on their teen’s choices. Bloomington Public Health and Tri-City Partners suggest parents remember the following:

- Let your teen know what you expect.
- Underage drinking is harmful – don’t buy into “everyone does it.”
- Monitor teens and their activities.
- Be a good role model – teens watch their parents’ behavior.

For more information, visit www.tricitypartners.org.

RUN FOR PEACE
SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS CELEBRATE DIVERSITY



Hundreds of Bloomington high school students, staff and community members will run, walk and roll from Kennedy to Jefferson High School on **Friday, May 7**, to promote diversity and peace. At the end of the run, each school observes Diversity Day with presentations, cultural awareness displays and activities. Both Bloomington high schools and the Bloomington Civic Plaza are designated as official Peace Sites.

The event is sponsored by the City of Bloomington, Bloomington Human Rights Commission, Bloomington School District’s Office of Educational Equity, Oak Grove Presbyterian Church and other community partners. The Richfield/ Bloomington Credit Union and Chipotle are supporting sponsors of the event.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: RUN FOR PEACE.

CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

RESOURCES ABOUND
HUMAN SERVICES FOR YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES

Human Services provides exceptional programs and services to community members of all ages. Programs are accessible to youth, families, multicultural communities and active, aging adults and people with disabilities.

For more information, call Human Services at 952-563-8733 or TTY 952-563-8740. To sign up for e-mail updates, go to our website, click on *E-Subscribe* and subscribe to “Human Services.”

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: HUMAN SERVICES.



LET’S GO FLY A KITE
CELEBRATING CHILDREN’S DAY

Come fly a kite with the Bloomington Sister City Organization as they host their annual Kite Day event in celebration of Children’s Day in Japan. Bring your kite or pick up a free one, **Saturday, May 1, 1 - 4 p.m.**, at Valley View Playfield, 90th Street and Portland Avenue.

This exciting day will feature live entertainment, food and, of course, kites. Prizes will be awarded for most creative, original and Japanese-style kites.

For more information, visit the Bloomington Sister City website at www.bloomington-izumi.org.

THIRD ANNUAL GLOBAL CELEBRATION
AN INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

Explore different world cultures in Bloomington, **Saturday, June 19, 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** at the Farmers Market. Let your senses be aroused as you taste ethnic foods, explore the customs of other nations, listen to traditional music, and see native crafts and wares. This free event is sponsored by Bloomington Human Services, Human Rights Commission, and Parks and Recreation. World cultural crafters, artists, food vendors and entertainers who would like to participate in the Global Celebration call 952-563-8733 or TTY 952-563-8740 for more information.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: GLOBAL CELEBRATION.



HOUSING AND TECHNOLOGY EXPO
FOR ACTIVE, AGING ADULTS

Bloomington Human Services invites you to a Housing and Technology Expo to learn about housing options, community services and new technologies to assist in daily living and to keep the mind and body active. This free event is **Saturday, May 15, 9 a.m. - noon**, at Bloomington Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: HOUSING EXPO.

OLDER AMERICANS’ MONTH
SPECIAL EVENTS AT CREEKSIDE



The City of Bloomington recognizes the value of aging adults in our city. Older members of the community share their wisdom, experiences and insight with the broader community and serve as role models for future generations. In recognition of Older Americans’ Month, Human Services and community partners offer special events and educational programs throughout the month of May.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: OLDER AMERICANS MONTH.